
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

*****news release

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Most or Flanagan - Interior 5634

For Release to PM's, MARCH 1, 1963

THREE TEEN-AGE BIOLOGISTS MEET WITH SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR UDALL

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall today introduced three of the Nation's potential top young biologists to the scientific aspects of the Department of the Interior.

The young biologists, Joan Simpson, Squantum, Mass., Douglas MacPhillamy, Madison, N. J., and John Fox, Stuart, Fla., each 17 years old, are three of forty national finalists in the 22nd annual Science Talent Search conducted by Science Clubs of America. All the finalists are in the Nation's capital to compete for \$34,250 in scholarships and awards during a five-day Science Talent Institute program which began February 27.

In discussing the biological work of the Department, Secretary Udall stressed the exciting career opportunities to be found in research and management of the Nation's fish and wildlife resources.

"The broad field of oceanography, for example, offers a real challenge for scientists in many fields now and in the future," the Secretary said.

Joan Simpson, one of nine girls among the 40 national winners, has been conducting research on diatoms, tiny one-celled brown algae, which is a key food for marine life such as oysters, sardines, and many others important to man. She did research on the mass culture of diatoms, exploring better methods for supplying them to fish hatcheries. Miss Simpson said she would like to be a marine biologist and work aboard an ocean research vessel. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward E. Simpson of Squantum, Mass.

Douglas J. MacPhillamy has sought to determine chemical similarities between two substances known to prevent maturity in insects when injected into their bodies. One of these substances is found in small amounts in insect larvae and the other is extracted from the thymus glands of mammals. Such research could

lead to new and safer chemical insecticides. For several years, he has been recording and taking pictures of wildlife in a large swamp area near his home. He has designed an extra sensitive pickup microphone for recording animal sounds. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold B. MacPhillamy of Madison, N. J.

John F. Fox has studied stone crabs to learn more about their breeding habits and commercial possibilities for food. This is of considerable interest to State conservation officials and to the commercial shellfishing industry. One of his hobbies has been the conduct of an annual census of wading bird populations. He plans to make a career of marine biology and biochemistry. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Fox of Stuart, Fla.

Following the interview with Secretary Udall, Miss Simpson and John F. Fox visited the Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Oxford, Md., Biological Laboratory. Douglas MacPhillamy visited the Patuxent, Md., Wildlife Research Center of the Service's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

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